

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SZ GW CA SHUM USUN OCON

SUBJ: NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS - CONFERENCE AGAINST
APARTHEID AND COLONIALISM IN AFRICA

REF: GENEVA 5276(NOTAL), STATE 183547

1. USUN OBTAINED FROM SECRETARY OF COMITE OF 24 TEXT OF
LETTER SENT TO COMITE CHAIRMAN INVITING HIM TO ATTEND
SUBJECT CONFERENCE. LETTERHEAD READS "INTERNATIONAL NGO
CONFERENCE AGAINST APARTHEID AND COLONIALISM IN AFRICA
ORGANIZED BY SPECIAL NGO COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS (GENEVA)
SUB-COMMITTEE ON RACISM, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, APARTHEID
AND DECOLONISATION" CHAIRMAN OF SPECIAL NGO COMITE:
NAILL MACDERMOT, INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS. OFFICERS
OF SUB-COMITE: CHAIRMAN - ROMASH CHANDRA, WORLD PEACE
COUNCIL; VICE CHAIRMAN - JOHN ENNALS, ANTI-APARTHEID MOVEMENT;
SECRETARY - EDITH BALLANTYNE, WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE
FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM; TREASURER OF CONFERENCE - RAYMONDO MARTINEAU,
INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT FOR FRATERNAL UNION AMONG RACES
AND PEOPLES." TEXT OF LETTER FOLLOWS: QUOTE
"AS YOU KNOW, THE INTERNATIONAL NGO CONFERENCE AGAINST
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APARTHEID AND COLONIALISM IN AFRICA WILL TAKE PLACE FROM

2-5 SEPTEMBER 1974, AT THE PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA. THE GENEVA NGO SUB-COMMITTEE ON RACISM, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, APARTHEID AND DECOLONIZATION, WHICH INITIATED THE ORGANIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE, IS MOST APPRECIATIVE OF THE INTEREST YOU HAVE SHOW IN ITS WORK, AND THE SUPPORT YOU HAVE GIVEN TO MAKE THIS CONFERENCE POSSIBLE. ON BEHALF OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE I WISH TO EXPRESS OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE TO YOU AND THE MEMBERS OF YOUR COMMITTEE.

"THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF THE CONFERENCE HAS ASKED ME TO INVITE YOUR EXCELLENCY AND THROUGH YOU THE MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONFERENCE .

"YOU PROBABLY KNOW THAT THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN TWO DAYS OF PLENARY SESSIONS AND TWO DAYS OF WORK IN COMMISSIONS DEALING WITH THE ECONOMIC , POLITICAL AND LEGAL ASPECTS OF APARTHEID AND COLONIALISM IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND WITH MASS MEDIA AND EDUCATION.

"WE ARE REQUESTING A NUMBER OF PERSONALITIES TO ADDRESS THE CONFERENCE AT THE OPENING PLENARY SESSION ON MONDAY MORNING, 2 SEPTEMBER. I HAVE BEEN ASKED TO ENQUIRE WHETHER YOU WOULD BE ABLE ON THIS OCCASION TO ADDRESS THE PARTICIPANTS. AS CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON DECOLONIZATION YOUR MESSAGE WOULD PROVIDE INSPIRATION AND GUIDANCE FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS. END QUOTE.

2. COMITE ON APARTHEID, COMITE OF 24 AND COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA HAVE BEEN INVITED PARTICIPATE IN CONFERENCE. COMITE OF 24 HAS YET TO DETERMINE WHO WILL REPRESENT THEM SINCE CHAIRMAN (SALIM) UNABLE TO ATTEND. COMITE ON APARTHEID WILL BE REPRESENTED BY PERM REP MARTYNENKO OF UKRANIAN SSR AND NAJDI JAZZAR SECOND SECRETARY SYRIAN MISSION UN. (CHAIRMAN OGBU WILL BE OFF ON TRIP TO JAPAN) COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA WILL BE REPRESENTED BY DEPUTY PERM REP GIBSON ZIMBA OF ZAMBIA, FIRST SECRETARY DAVID WEAHPLAH WILSON OF LIBERIA AND COUNSELLOR MILES STOBY OF GUYANA.

3. IDEA FOR THIS CONFERENCE SEEMS TO HAVE ORIGINATED WITH ROMESH CHANDRA OF WORLD PEACE COUNCIL. CONFERENCE ORIGINALLY SECHEDULED LATE 1973 BUT LACKED MONEY. DECEMBER 1973 WORLD CONGRESS OF PEACE FORCES IN MOSCOW CHANNELED MONEY TO SUBCOMITE TO ALLOW CONFERENCE TO TAKE PLACE THIS YEAR.

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